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JUL 18 2001

In re Application of )  
GARDNER et al. )  
Application No. 09/253,306 )  
Filed: February 19, 1999 )  
For: INTERCONNECTION ALLOY FOR )  
INTEGRATED CIRCUITS )

DECISION ON PETITION  
TO WITHDRAW HOLDING  
OF ABANDONMENT

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR § 1.137(a), filed on April 9, 2001, which petition is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR § 1.8(b) to withdraw the holding of abandonment of the above-identified application. No fee is required for this petition.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application was held abandoned for failure to respond in a timely manner to the non-final Office action of May 8, 2000. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on March 21, 2001.

Petitioner states that a timely response was mailed via certificate of mailing on August 8, 2000. The petition complies with 37 CFR § 1.8(b) in that (1) the Office was promptly informed of the previous timely mailing, (2) a copy of the previously mailed correspondence with certificate of mailing thereon has been supplied, and (3) a declaration which attest to the previous mailing has been submitted. In addition, petitioner has submitted a copy of a return postcard which acknowledges receipt of an amendment by the Patent and Trademark Office on August 15, 2000.

For the above stated reasons, the Notice of Abandonment mailed on March 21, 2001 is hereby vacated and the holding of abandonment withdrawn. The copy of the amendment submitted on April 9, 2001 is accepted, since the Office has apparently misplaced the response to the Office action originally submitted.

The application file is being forwarded to the technical support staff for Technology Center 2800 for processing of the response submitted on April 9, 2001.

Hien H. Phan, Special Programs Examiner  
Technology Center 2800 - Semiconductors, Electrical  
and Optical Systems and Components